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Attorney Docket: 2285/51302
PATENT 8/15/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Muelesh

Applicant: YUMIKO KAWANO ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/052,306 Group Art Unit: 2813

Filed: JANUARY 18, 2002 Examiner: E.J. KIELIN

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

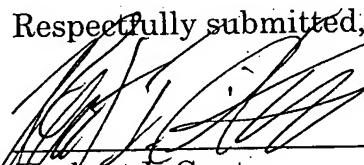
This is in response to the Office Action dated January 15, 2003, in which the Examiner required restriction between the following:

1. Group I, method Claims 1-16 and 26-34; and
2. Group II, apparatus Claims 17-25 and 35-37.

Applicants hereby elect Group I, method Claims 1-16 and 26-34, without prejudice to their right to file divisional application on the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,

February 14, 2003


Herbert I. Cantor
Registration No. 24,392

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
HIC:tcv

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